

Greenfield, Kilgobbin, Co. of Dublin

July 29. 1860

Dear Sir May - I has a letter from you yesterday enclosing a much
larger one for Eliza Wigham which I forwarded immediately. By
the way I may as well trouble you who are so correct, to believe
the corrected. You need not direct to the care of Henry Wigham
when you write to Eliza. Her brother Henry has been living for
years in Dublin, and Eliza lives at 5 Gray Strand with her father &
Eliza Wigham and her step mother Jane, who you ~~do~~ know is a
staunch abolitionist & sister of William Head of Sligo &
whom we used to hear more of ~~late~~ ~~now~~ formerly than of late
years. The marriage of Mrs Jane Wigham has been a very
happy one, as she is beloved & respected by her husband's children
as if they were their own mothers. When John Wigham's wife
died he was left a widower with two daughters, two sons. Mary
(now Mrs Edmonstone, a widow in Dublin) was the eldest, twin only,
12 years old. When (now with Henry in partnership with Mary)
in the home-forming Conventry trade in Dublin, and all went
prosperous) was sent to an infant. Mary became mistress of
the house & behaved admirably. She is a remarkably admirable
woman, with a perfect nose, open, innocent, cordial face that does
you good to look at. She is rich, healthy, hearty & good natured,
making all around her take who come within her reach as happy as
she can. Rich and poor make the same to her - and she is the
blessing of many to a very large circle. You know what I think of
Eliza. I should add that Mary has two sons & three daughters -
the eldest of the daughters very clever having carried off I don't
know how many gold medals. So other prides at an upper class
school in Edinburgh. - There now, if I were to go on giving you
sketches of the two friends - ~~she~~ in these parts, what a litter might
I not fill up. One passage in your letter of yesterday has caused
me and Mr May a thinking a good deal. It is that which you
mention Mr May's high estimate, in which I quite agree, of the
value of a cheerful, sunny, kindly temperament - and you mutual
opinion (as such I wish I could also coincide) that I am the happy
one. Now let me diversify again. I suppose almost all who are
writers in the habit of expressing opinions have some that may almost be

called "cast opinions" they are so apt to support them whenever they can lay them in. Now one of my "cast" sentiments is this, that we are apt to draw large conclusions from small premises. And one of my illustrate stories is that when William Dawson of Osselin, who was in London in 1840 at the World's Convention, ~~He~~ was the first American friend I ever had, while Debden, he sat at the table of "my set" who were all teetotallers, & when he was leaving us he remarked that he was greatly pleased to find teetotalism so well established in Dublin, since he had been at so many houses & so many people so various in their modes of living & from James Haughton, a rich man, to myself being brother who have no wealth to boast of] and that he found them all total abstinents. I was obliged to tell him that he would probably not have found in ~~any~~ any circle of equal extent in Dublin, an equal number of abstainers. Then again, if Mrs May and Miss May & myself were to come to us here at Greenfield, & gratefully we be, a visit you would probably go away quite assured that there quite as sunny, cheerful & kindly as we had supposed. But why? Simply because I think your society & conversation would be exactly to my taste. There are no numbers of people in earth for whom I have so much respect, admiration & I may add affection as the American abolitionists. I like them & I like to be acting with them & for them to the best of my ability. If it were to me to have your society & in such intercourse I am in a state of delightful expectation & interests which is not usual with me. Naturally I have small knowledge of an application & curiosities. I have a great capacity for the enjoyment of congenial society - but I am a comeouter of this sort, we often have much intercourse with others & in the sense of present enjoyment, a great disadvantage.

About the volumes you have sent to my care. Those for London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, Bristol, & Manchester have been sent forward. That for Leeds is apprehended - but not sent - as I am waiting to hear from Mr Hornsby from Wakefield as to whether I had better send a set to them & to Sheffield. I think, however, even if I should send to Wakefield, I will make a selection for Wakefield Sheffield which I will send to the care of Mr Charles Workman (a real saint in that town, though a Unitarian) as I have already done to Wetherby to

care of my sister Mrs. Maria Waring Palmer, who you will be glad
to know is most happily married to a most excellent man of Evangelical
devotion with herself. She has her heart in the cause &
will be sure to make a good use of the books I have sent her.
of the smaller pamphlets after sending many duplicates with
each application, many copies will still remain which I
will take care to get off as they open. As to the reports I
have sent about 20 with each haul of books - but I retained
a good many which I have fit annexed (with the end open) for
book post, and I send them off whenever I hear of or think of
a good address. I am most anxious to get them into the
hands of writers for the press whether authors or newspaper editors.
I have applied to some for assistance in this way - and in many
but in good manner. I have now heard of Anthony Trollope (I
believe a son of the dear old in the U.S. notorious Mrs. Trollope, who first broke
the monotony of her dreary books of travel in our country) - he is
author of "Ragged Town" & several wonderfully clear works. Well,
he lately published a book on "The British West Indies & the Spanish
Main" & some such title - one of the raciest, funniest, mirth-
abounding books I ever read. I enjoyed it immensely [I have one
quality in great perfection - a great capacity for enjoyment] He pro-
fesses to dislike Slavery as much as any body - but he declares it to be a
fact that the West Indian negro has little capacity for civilization -
that he cares for little but indolent enjoyment of existence - and is
 destitute of the higher intellectual qualities. The West Indians have
degraded him probably as far as protracting his misery can
go there except a large emigration of Chinese, coolies, Portuguese
&c. The negro can work but will not, for they want nothing but to live
with as little labor as possible. I am sure he despises us in a very
low condition. A great deal of what he says seems to me to agree with
what I would suppose from what I know or think I know of the negro
character. I don't think Trollope has any bias to Slavery, but that he
is determined to repeat things as he finds them. I think too that the
battle against Slavery is to be fought on the ground that it barbarizes
the white race - and that liberty will certainly & if itself cleverly the
blacks. However, I send a Report to Anthony Trollope, just to him a letter
telling him to read it in the light of the remarks I have just embodied.

I has a very civil note in reply, thanking me for the Report, promising to read it, & saying that in speaking as he does of the Jamaica Negro he has only stated what appeared to him to be the truth. I also send a Report that an author from General Thompson, author of the last law book Catechism, and a veteran reformer of great eminence. He was for some years an N.P. and is very low & the non application of his former convictions. But this shows not surprise in old men if he were also a low man. Constituencies are rarely remarkable for documentation in the choir of their representations. Miss Remond supplied me with many names but they were chiefly ladies & the Report is my much more likely to be used by men than by women in their attitudes. I have sent to Miss Martineau, Mr Chamber, Lord Brougham & others too letters to mention. Wm E. Fatty whom afterwards I wrote sent me some names but he thinks that liberally men are more guilty than general on this question in England. If so, this will be a good point to make the case. The one which I have is to

other two letters to mention. I will not trouble you with
sent me some names but he thinks that liberally men are more
guilty than ignorant on this question in England. If so, this
must be attributed to the want of education they are likely to have with
troubled consequences, plausible, astute, often educated & wealthy,
& shrewd astutely, proslavery or what you'd call proslavery.

Such a season as we have had. Hardly a day without rain & there's little sunshine - the thermometer rarely above 60. The people up here very kindly offer comfort for the dead frost is by no means cheery. Last year we had twelve almost months together without a drop of rain or a cloud. This year we have hardly had one dry & sunny day.

My wife starts ^{tomorrow} for Holyhead intended to reach London by 11
A.M. She was accompanied by her sister Mrs Harvey of Waterville who had
never crossed the sea before she wished to see London - so they will
have a pleasant week among the lions. My oldest son is on a visit to
relations 100 miles west - my son Rich and wife 100 miles south.
My two daughters gone at 4 driving a little fish pony car to bring
some friends to dinner with us this afternoon and Sunday - Grand Corres-
pondent is alone in the house by himself

A little more than three months ago, hearing from
Mr. J. G. Horne of Woburn that he was in poor health,
I invited him to visit me at my home about ten
miles from Dublin. He came and stayed about
ten weeks - then intended to go home by way
of Bristol but took a litter to my sister in law
Mrs. Maria (Waring) Patines, ~~was~~ in Waterford.
With her this husband he remained about seven
weeks - so that the family had a good chance
of knowing him. He is an old man nearly
four & twenty but his looks like a boy of fifteen
having no bears or a manly, sulky face.
He took with the ladies wherever he went - but
the gentlemen did not care so much about
him. He is a good abolitionist & very up
to the cause - but some how or other he
does not get on thoroughly together - I do not
feel at home with him - as I could with
Pellbury, & H. C. Wright, & S. Thompson - but
to mention yourself. Now I am as cheerful as
~~he~~ and therefore should be able to make allowances
for the want of fresh in others. Still I am
somewhat repelled by a certain intense
Yohshin braggie a man of which Yoh-
shueuen are proud - but which cause rather
oddly from such an effeminate looking man
when addressing one so much older than he
as is your Dublin Correspondent. He was
a good deal disturbed by ~~his~~ ~~present~~ my taking
such an interest in the Thompson & Douglas
pamphlet which he regards as a needless
stirring of a subject of entirely trivial regard

as an important help to a right understand-
standing of the subject of American Slavery,
I often think you have an generally
zealous good fellow - but they are young, &
have stronger strain to being rude as than
repeatedly found.

I have now distributed the bulk of the
books at the places you named, with some
to Waterford which you did not name. I
have some few duplicate books, pamphlets,
etc left - and these I will take off by
opportunity to distribute. If many
of the smaller tracts I send several copies
to each place. The which copies con-
nected with the distribution surrounding
will be very trifling - as I but an oppor-
tunity of saving you a penny.

as to high Sabbath we have had letters respecting
and unpacking between us - but I do not
think we shall see his for some time. I had
a note from H. Martineau yesterday telling me
that he was obliged to decline seeing all
strangers & to include Miss S. who had called
with that view. She is extremely feeble & is I
think an remarkable an instance of bodily
debility with undiminished mental bright-
ness, as the world has ever seen. Miss
S. has had several invasions of health
lately from various causes so that I have
no doubt she will have an eventful time

I don't know whether in the beginning of
this little summer or the cold & rainy time
ago) that the sun has been hitherto
well & cold to degree such as the like
has not been known for nearly 60 years.
It was difficult to make hay, & the frost
& rain made it difficult to ripen. The bar-
ometers generally low & the thermometer
rarely higher than 60. The hay has been
in July & August - and a few days ago there
was (I read in the papers) two inches of
snow on some of the Uinkshire hills. When
W. T. S. was here in 1846 he had a great time
laughing at our wet weather - no day without
a shower - but this year has been even so
we have had very little sunshine.

Aug. 11 - My wife has returned from her visit to
London where she saw Thompson, wonderfully
recovered from the prostration caused by his
visit to India - her son in law Chapman whom
she thinks a good fellow with great talents
of purpose - this daughter, Mrs Chapman, a very
attractive woman though not in the highest
sense of mere fleshly beauty.

Did I say I used to say that a member
of the Senate are still on hand - ready
covered for the part so that whenever an
appropriate name occurs I can forward
it by affixing 2 Queen's head.

Mr Webb saw Dr Cheever and was very
favorably impressed by the man though
not thinking very highly of him as a mere
actor. Mr. Thunberg made great efforts
to induce him to stay longer in his time in
Sweden in order to attend a great
tricentenary celebration of the Reformation
to be held shortly in Edinburgh. Then he
was unable tho' I believe not inclined to
do, by the opposition of some of his own wife
whom the husband has tractable. They
seemed dissatisfied stand by so doing he
would damage all their plan. I heard
also that he was present with S. Thunberg
at a meeting of Congregational Ministers in
London who received him warmly & agreed
to make the way clear for him on his
return from the Continent.

Yours ever affectionately

Rich D'Webb

I would be very glad when hear you info
if you could tell me know Clifters road
health is reported think you enjoy your lecture

Rev. S. May, Junr

The Standard & Liberator which are now directed to Joseph
A. Horner⁸¹, Wakefield, he would wish to have ^{directed} ^{in writing} as follows

177, GREAT BRUNSWICK STREET,

London

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